

FOOD HOUSING CABINET ASSEMBLY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A holding cabinet assembly for holding pre-processed food products and a process for maintaining the product appearance of a pre-processed food product for a predetermined amount of time includes a steamer assembly capable of containing heated water which is maintained at a first substantially fixed temperature and a cabinet housing coupled to the steamer assembly and having air circulated therein with the air in the cabinet housing being maintained at a second substantially fixed temperature. As a result of controlling and maintaining the temperature of the water in the steamer assembly and air in the food cabinet housing, the relative humidity of the food cabinet housing is maintained at a substantially fixed value. In this holding cabinet assembly, a plurality of compartments are arranged in the housing with each compartment including an openable and closeable drawer. A carrier insert is adapted to be removably supported in each of the drawers. Each of the carrier inserts is capable of holding a plurality of the pre-processed food products whereby the food products in the carrier inserts can be conditioned at the fixed relative humidity of the food cabinet housing. In addition, a control indicator is provided for controlling and sequencing the removal of pre-processed food products from each compartment before the expiration of a predetermined amount of time.